Approved For Release 2000/08/29 : CIA-RDP79-01153A000100070002-2

[redacted]

20 August 1968

TO: Chief, Editorial Division, OBGI
25X1A9a
FROM: [redacted]

SUBJECT: Interior production performance - 3rd quarter FY67 through 15 August FY69

1. The attached table, summarizing Interior's production performance on 62(F) and 63 sections, from the end of the third quarter of FY67 to 15 August 1968, indicates that Interior's productive capabilities have not improved since the reorganization of the Foreign Activities Division at the beginning of FY68. Interior expected that the reorganization, which has now functioned for a year, would not only permit them to catch up on their backlog, but speed up the overall time in turning out newly scheduled sections.

2. Interior entered FY68 with 21 sections backlogged and 15 new sections scheduled -- a workload of 36 sections. Of these 36 sections, 20 have been delivered through 17 July 1968. There have been no further deliveries since then. This leaves, as of 15 August 1968, a FY69 workload of 27 sections (16 backlogged and 11 new scheduled sections) for the remaining $10\frac{1}{2}$ months of FY69. This remaining time would be reduced to $7\frac{1}{2}$ months if Interior follows the procedure of their first year of reorganization -- stopping all NIS production during the last quarter of the fiscal year and concentrating the entire staff on the Minerals Yearbook. Based on Interior's past performance records, 27 sections in $7\frac{1}{2}$ months seems an impossible feat.

3. With the last section delivered on 17 July 1968 25X6A [redacted] 62F -- FY68), Interior presented a schedule of 15 sections which would be delivered at the rate of one a week beginning 26 July 1968 and running through 1 November 1968. The list included the one FY65 backlogged section, the five backlogged FY67 sections, and nine of the ten backlogged FY68 sections. However, on 2 August we were advised that this one-per-week-submission schedule has been delayed 2 or 3 weeks -- an all too familiar refrain.

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4. It is a striking coincidence that with Interior's reorganization ED/BGI began to be plagued with processing problems, to a degree, never before experienced. Before the reorganization ED/BGI had never received such a succession of poor quality sections from Interior, nor encountered any appreciable delay in getting Interior's coordinators and contributors to confer on and correct sections. The quality decline could be attributed to crashing out the sections to catch up, using analyists without experience in NIS production, and lack of time on the part of Interior's coordinators, because of other duties, to properly review sections before submitting to BGI. The delays in getting together for conferences and after-conference correcting is attributed, according to excuses received from Interior's coordinators and analyists, to preoccupation with Minerals Yearbook work.

5. Of the 17 sections processed so far out of the 20 received from Interior as of 17 July (review not completed on 3), 10 were not up to acceptable standards of quality. They were particularly lacking in the following respects: text and tables carried different information; pertinent substantive text material was incorrect or out of date; basic information and statistics were out of date and required updating; topical information was misplaced by heading; and maps were improperly prepared and collated with text and tables. Reviewing these sections involved considerable time and editorial support, but the big time lag in getting these sections processed resulted from delays in getting Interior's coordinators or contributors to confer on the sections and in getting corrections from Interior after the conference.

6. Most of these 10 sections required more than the normal 1-day conference time. The average number of conference days for these sections was 3 days, except for the Spain 62(F) which took 8 conferences. The days waiting conference for most of these sections is abnormally high: Spain (62), 116 days; Rhodesia (63), 89 days; Indonesia (62), 51 days; [redacted] 62), 25X6A 40 days; Algeria (62), 38 days; Iran (62), 18 days; and Ghana (63), 20 days and still waiting. The extremes in waiting for corrective material back from Interior ran to 160 days for Rhodesia (63); 118 days for Spain (62); and 39 days for Congo (K) (63).

Attachment, table: Production Performance Of Interior Department From End Third Quarter FY67 to 15 August 1968

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